

Statistics Weekly

Thursday, 30 September 1993

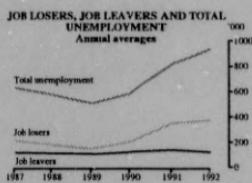
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Job losers and job leavers

(This is a shortened version of a special feature article published in *The Labour Force, Australia*, August 1993.)

The majority of people who are unemployed have left a full-time job within the last two years. Of these people, a large proportion have lost their job through retrenchment or for other reasons, while others have left jobs through their own choice. This article describes some of the characteristics of job losers and job leavers using data published each month in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).



Changes in job losers and job leavers

In the last ten years, unemployment reached its lowest level in 1989, when it averaged 509 000 persons. Since then it has climbed to an average of 933 100 in 1992. Of this increase of 424 100 unemployed persons:

- 54 per cent were job losers (that is, left their last full-time job involuntarily);
- 4 per cent were job leavers (that is, left their last full-time job voluntarily);
- 16 per cent had never worked full time; and
- 24 per cent had not worked full time for two weeks or more for at least two years (that is, former workers).

The rise of 228 600 in the number of job losers since 1989 was an increase of 154 per cent. By 1992, job losers made up 41 per cent of all unemployed persons, compared with 29 per cent in 1989. The majority of job losers were laid off or retrenched. The proportion of this group to the total number of job losers has increased from 62 per cent in 1989 to 72 per cent in 1992. Job leavers have shown a different pattern of change over those three years. In 1989, there were 107 800 unemployed persons on average who reported that they were job leavers. By 1991, the number had increased to 140 800 but then fell to 123 800 in 1992. While there was a small increase overall in the number of job leavers between 1989 and 1992, the proportion of unemployed persons who were job leavers fell from 21 per cent in 1989 to 13 per cent in 1992.

Males and females

In 1989, 101 500 unemployed males reported that they were job losers, comprising 68 per cent of all job losers. By 1992, there were 288 600 male job losers — 76 per cent of all job losers. The proportion of job leavers who were male was 56 per cent (69 500) in 1992, up from 54 per cent (58 100) three years earlier.

Unemployed males are twice as likely to be job losers than unemployed females, reflecting the differing proportions of persons employed full time (90% of employed males are in full-time work compared with 58% for females). In 1992, 50 per cent of unemployed males were job losers compared with 25 per cent for unemployed females. There was, however, little difference between unemployed males and females accounted for by job leavers — 12 and 15 per cent respectively.

Age

Among the age groups, there was little difference in the proportion of unemployed persons who were job losers in 1992 apart from persons in the 15-19 age group. (The majority of unemployed persons in this age group were looking for their first full-time job.) In the other age groups, the proportion of unemployed persons who were job losers ranged from 44 per cent for persons aged 20-24 and those aged 55 and over to 47 per cent for persons in the 45-54 age group.

Unemployed persons in the younger age groups are more likely to be job leavers. In 1992, 17 per cent of unemployed persons in the 20-24 and 25-34 age groups were job leavers compared with 7 per cent for those aged 55 and over.

Occupation of last full-time job

In 1992, 84 per cent of all unemployed persons who had worked as tradespersons in their last full-time job were job losers as were 81 per cent of unemployed labourers and related workers. The proportion of unemployed persons who were job losers increased for all major occupation groups between 1989 and 1992.

JOB LOSERS AND JOB LEAVERS, BY OCCUPATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB, 1992
Annual averages ('000)

Occupation	Job losers			
	Laid off, retrenched	Total	Job leavers	Total
Tradespersons	67.5	90.1	16.8	106.9
Clerks	26.2	35.7	17.8	53.5
Salespersons	36.2	46.5	27.0	73.5
Plant & machine operators & drivers	30.2	39.9	10.5	50.3
Labourers & related workers	86.8	124.4	28.9	153.3
Other	26.1	40.9	22.8	63.7

In 1992, the 'major occupation groups of last full-time job' with the highest proportions of unemployed persons who were job leavers were salespersons and personal service workers (37%) and clerks (33%).

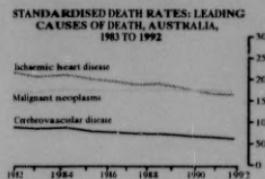
Data availability

The ABS has a wide range of unpublished data relating to characteristics of the unemployed. These data are available in the form of microfiche, floppy disk and customised reports. In general, a charge is made for providing unpublished information.

For further information, order the publication The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0), or contact Heather Crawford on (06) 252 6525 or contact the ABS State offices as shown on page 7 of this publication.

Cancer is main killer in 1992

For the second successive year cancer has exceeded ischaemic heart disease as the leading cause of death in Australia.



The three leading causes of death in 1992 were malignant neoplasms (32 033 deaths), ischaemic heart disease (31 482 deaths) and cerebrovascular disease (11 986 deaths). Together these three causes accounted for 61 per cent of all deaths.

In all there were 123 660 deaths in Australia in 1992. After standardising for age this represents a death rate of 652 deaths per 100 000 of the total population. This compares with 119 146 deaths and a standardised death rate of 649 per 100 000 of the population in 1991.

In 1992 there were 172 deaths per 100 000 of the population from cancers, almost identical to the rate of 173 deaths per 100 000 persons in 1991. The rate for ischaemic heart disease in 1992 was 164 per 100 000, slightly lower than the rate of 167 deaths per 100 000 in 1991.

Deaths from major respiratory disease increased from 6 012 in 1991 to 6 782 in 1992. This leading cause includes conditions such as asthma, bronchitis and emphysema.

MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH, 1992

Cause of death	Number of deaths	Death rate per 100 000	Percentage of total deaths
Cancer	32 033	172	25.9
Ischaemic heart disease	31 482	164	25.5
Stroke	11 986	61	9.7
Major respiratory disease	6 782	36	5.5
Accidents	4 678	26	3.8
Motor vehicle traffic accidents	2 066	12	1.7
Diseases of arteries	3 284	17	2.7
Diabetes mellitus	2 405	13	1.9
Suicide	2 294	13	1.9
Pneumonia and influenza	2 008	10	1.6
Hereditary disease of the nervous system	1 982	10	1.6
All causes	123 660	652	100.0

Deaths from suicide (2 294) were greater than those from motor vehicle traffic accidents (2 066) for the second successive year.

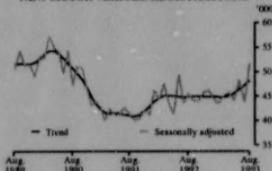
The mortality rate for infants aged under 1 year, at 7 deaths per 1 000 live births did not change between 1991 and 1992.

There were 308 deaths from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) in 1992, a decrease on the 373 deaths in 1991. Most of these deaths (294) occurred in infants under 1 year of age and accounted for 16 per cent of total infant mortality.

For further information, order the publication *Causes of Death, Australia (3303.0)*, or contact Peter Crowe on (06) 252 6967.

Better new vehicle trend emerges

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS



The trend estimate for total new motor vehicle registrations is finally showing evidence of steady growth, with monthly rises exceeding one per cent in each of the four months to August 1993.

In the trend series, total registrations were 7.4 per cent higher than they were in August 1992, when registrations had hit a plateau after a modest recovery from the slump of 1990-91.

In seasonally adjusted terms, total new motor vehicle registrations for August rose sharply by 18.3 per cent compared with July 1993.

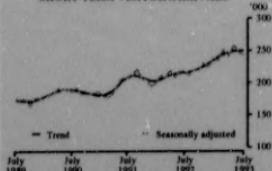
In unadjusted terms, total new motor vehicle registrations for August 1993 rose by 15.4 per cent, from 45 439 in July to 52 422 vehicles. Passenger vehicles rose by 19.6 per cent, from 37 719 to 45 120 vehicles. 'Other' vehicles recorded a fall of 5.4 per cent, from 7 720 vehicles in July to 7 302 in August.

All States/Territories showed rises in registrations, except for the Northern Territory where there was a fall of 16.8 per cent. The largest increase of 22.9 per cent was recorded in the Australian Capital Territory.

For further information, order the publication Registrations of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (9301.0), or contact Kevin Yeadon on (06) 252 6255.

Visitor arrivals level off

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS



The trend estimate of short term overseas arrivals in Australia declined for the first time in almost two years in July 1993.

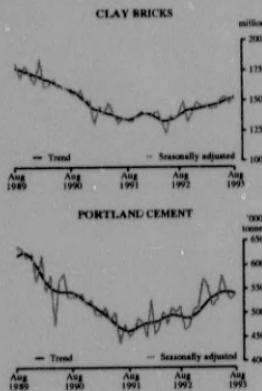
The actual number of arrivals in July was 244 600, a rise of 40 000 on the previous month, but the trend declined marginally and statistical indications are that the decline is likely to continue in August.

Japan remained the major source country of visitors in July 1993, with 23 per cent, followed by New Zealand with 19 per cent and the United States with 10 per cent.

For further information, order the publication Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia (3401.0), or contact Robert Chibnall on (06) 252 6671.

August manufacturing production

The publication *Manufacturing Production, Australia, Preliminary* (8301.0) contains up-to-date time series data on the production of twenty-seven major indicators of production (twenty-one with up-to-date trend estimates). The indicator commodities have been selected to give a broad industry representation of the manufacturing sector and are part of a much larger range of commodity items published in the series of ten Manufacturing Production Bulletins.



In the table below, twelve items are showing an increase in trend over production levels twelve months earlier. Domestic clothes washing machines continued a falling trend observed since March 1993 and electric motors are showing a heavy fall in trend production from its last peak in March 1993. Clay bricks trend production has continued to show growth from May 1992 while recent data suggests that portland cement trend production has levelled off after showing rising production since October 1992.

The two comparisons shown below should be read together to indicate both longer term trends and current trend direction. Reference should also be made to more detailed data presented in the monthly publications.

MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION, AUGUST 1993

Product	Percentage change in trend		
	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year	
Cotton yarn	1.2	28.6	
Iron and steel in ingots or other primary forms	-1.7	15.1	
Clay bricks	0.8	10.7	
Basic iron, spiegeleisen and sponge iron	-1.3	10.3	
Portland cement	-0.6	9.5	
Woven man-made fibre fabric	-0.6	8.6	
Chocolate based confectionery	3.3	7.6	
Domestic clothes washing machines	-0.5	5.6	
Cigarettes and tobacco	0.7	1.5	
Electricity	-0.2	1.4	
Cars and station wagons	0.1	0.9	
Wool yarn	0.4	0.9	
Textile floor coverings	-0.2	0.0	
Woven wool fabric (including blanketing)	-2.2	-0.2	
Beer	-0.8	-2.4	
Other confectionery	0.0	-2.5	
Gas available for issue through mains	-0.9	-5.7	
Electric motors	-7.2	-6.1	
Sulphuric acid; oleum	-1.5	-7.5	
Television sets	-1.1	-12.1	
Blooms and slabs, from rolling and forging	-6.2	-41.6	

Inquiries

The ABS supplies a wide range of statistical information:

- through its bookshops
- by mail order (including subscription)
- by facsimile
- electronically.

To order any of the publications mentioned in *Statistics Weekly* or to inquire about the statistics and services available from the ABS, contact Information Services at any of the offices listed below. An Information Consultancy Service in each office provides assistance of a more extensive or complex nature.

ABS Central Office

- PO Box 10
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- (06) 252 6627
FAX (06) 253 1404

ABS State Offices

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Statistics Weekly
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Order from the following:

Expected releases over the fortnight to 12 October

September

- 29 Balance of Payments, Australia, August 1993 (5301.0; \$16.30)
Building Approvals, Australia, August 1993 (8731.0; \$13.30)
- 30 Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia, August 1993 (6354.0; \$12.70)

October

- 5 Retail Trade, Australia, August 1993 (8501.0; \$10.70)
- 7 The Labour Force, Australia, September 1993 (6202.0; \$10.70)

Selected releases: 22 to 28 September

General

Brisbane City Statistical Summary, 1993 (1313.3; \$8.70)

Tasmanian Statistical Indicators, September 1993 (1303.6; \$9.70)

Demography

Deaths, Aust., 1992 (3302.0; \$18.40)

Causes of Death, Aust., 1992 (3303.0; \$17.30)

Perinatal Deaths, Aust., 1992 (3304.0; \$14.80)

Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Aust., July 1993 (3401.0; \$6.60)

National accounts, finance and foreign trade

Common Funds, Aust., June Qtr 199 (5657.0; \$10.70) — final issue

Assets and Liabilities of Friendly Societies, Aust., June Qtr 199 (5660.0; \$10.70) — final issue

Labour statistics and prices

The Labour Force, Aust., August 1993 (6203.0; \$16.30)

Manufacturing, Mining, Energy, Service Industries, Building and Construction

Electricity and Gas Operations, Aust., 1991–92 (8208.0; \$10.70)

Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Fibres, Yarns, Fabrics, Bedding and Floor Coverings, July 1993 (8360.0; \$10.70)

Transport

Motor Vehicle Registrations, Aust., 1992–93 (9304.0; \$20.00) — final issue

Key national indicators	Period	Units	Latest figure available		Percentage change (a) on	
			Original	Seasonally adjusted	Previous period	Corresponding period last year
National accounts						
Gross domestic product (GDP(A)) at 1989-90 prices	June qtr 93	\$m	n.a.	95 250	1.2	3.3
International accounts						
Balance on current account (b) (d)	July 93	\$m	-1 548	-1 099	26	26
Balance on merchandise trade (b) (d)	"	"	-180	144	—	—
Balance on goods and services (b) (d)	"	"	-469	20	—	—
Merchandise exports (d)	"	"	8 897	5 395	7	13
Merchandise imports (d)	"	"	5 577	-5 251	1	10
Net foreign debt	30 June 93	\$m	172 325	n.a.	7.5	12.9
Net foreign liabilities	"	"	222 984	n.a.	7.2	12.2
Consumption and investment						
Retail turnover at current prices	July 93	\$m	8 046	8 194	0.2	3.6
New capital expenditure at 1989-90 prices	June qtr 93	"	6 034	5 788	-2.8	1.8
New motor vehicle registrations	August 93	no.	52 422	51 724	15.4	17.6
Production						
Manufacturers' sales at 1989-90 prices	June qtr 93	\$m	34 296	34 540	0.9	1.2
Dwelling unit approvals (d)	July 93	no.	15 738	15 200	8.2	10.7
Building approvals (d)	"	\$m	2 080	2 097	4.1	14.3
Building work done at 1989-90 prices	Mar. qtr 93	"	5 748	6 207	0.8	6.9
Prices						
Consumer price index	June qtr 93	1989-90 = 100.0	109.3	n.a.	0.4	1.9
Articles produced by manufacturing industry	July 93	1988-89 = 100.0	115.5	n.a.	0.2	2.0
Materials used in manufacturing industries	July 93	1984-85 = 100.0	127.2	n.a.	0.0	0.8
Labour force and demography						
Employed persons	August 93	'000	7 684.9	7 729.6	-0.1	0.1
Participation rate †	"	%	62.0	62.6	0.2	-0.6
Unemployment rate †	"	%	10.7	11.1	0.4	0.2
Job vacancies	May qtr 93	'000	30.2	31.6	9.5	24.3
Average weekly overtime per employee	"	hours	1.18	1.20	3.5	8.4
Estimated resident population	Dec. qtr 92	million	17.6	n.a.	0.2	1.1
Short-term overseas visitor arrivals	July 93	'000	247	244	-1.6	11.7
Incomes						
Company profits before income tax	June qtr 93	\$m	3 978	4 435	-1.8	33.6
Av. weekly earnings, full-time adults; ordinary time	May qtr 93	\$	597.80	n.a.	0.7	1.8
Financial markets						
Interest rates (c) (monthly average)	August 93	% per annum	4.75	n.a.	-0.20	-1.15
90-day bank bills †	"	"	3.5	n.a.	-0.25	-2.30
10-year Treasury bonds †	July 93	per \$A	6.65	n.a.	—	-9
Exchange rate — \$US (c) (d)	"	"	0.6775	n.a.	—	—

(a) Based on seasonally adjusted figures where available. (b) For percentage changes, a minus sign indicates an increase in the deficit; no sign means a decrease in the deficit or an increase in the surplus. (c) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. (d) Later figures expected to be released Wednesday, 29 September 1993.

NOTES: † = change is shown in terms of percentage points. n.a. = not available.

Percentage change from same period previous year

Key State indicators	Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
New capital expenditure*	Mar. qtr 93	6.6	2.7	-14.0	2.2	31.5	1.0	n.a.	n.a.	3.2
Retail turnover (trend estimate)	July 93	-2.0	5.8	4.5	3.5	12.3	0.0	n.a.	7.8	3.4
New motor vehicle registrations†	August 93	13.8	5.0	18.0	9.6	21.9	34.3	-1.9	54.0	13.8
Number of dwelling unit approvals*	July 93	12.3	4.9	24.5	21.3	2.9	8.0	12.9	-12.5	8.3
Value of total building work done	Mar. qtr 93	3.2	2.0	16.0	0.8	35.9	-0.5	-10.8	-6.2	7.5
Employed persons*	August 93	-1.0	-1.1	1.2	1.1	3.7	-2.0	-1.9	4.9	0.1
Capital city consumer price index	June qtr 93	1.8	1.8	2.5	2.7	1.1	2.2	1.5	2.2	1.9
Av. weekly earnings (full-time adult ordinary time)	May qtr 93	0.1	2.2	5.0	1.7	-0.1	2.0	2.5	4.2	1.8
Population	Dec. qtr 92	0.9	0.5	2.5	0.5	1.2	0.5	1.0	1.5	1.1
Room nights in licensed hotels and motels, etc.	Mar. qtr 93	6.7	2.3	14.1	-2.5	2.1	10.5	6.1	14.6	7.0

* Seasonally adjusted except for NT and ACT. † Seasonally adjusted except for Tas., NT and ACT.

Figures have been taken from a variety of ABS publications. Copies may be obtained from Information Services (see page 7). Some of the figures shown are preliminary, some final, and some are revisions of previously published figures. Users should check the latest relevant publication or with the ABS Information Services if the status of the statistic is important. The ABS should be acknowledged as the source when reproducing or quoting any part of this publication.